

WE CLAIM

1. A method for a first organization to do business comprising:
- entering into a contractual relationship with a second organization;
  - authorizing said second organization to take an order from a customer, said order comprising at least one of:
    - products not produced by said first organization, and services not provided by said first organization;
    - receiving payment directly from said customer as a payment for said order taken by said second organization;
    - requiring an organization other than said first organization to ship products not produced by said first organization to said customer;
    - requiring an organization other than said first organization to provide services to said customer.
2. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
- requiring said second organization to provide a second organization service to a customer.
3. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
- requiring a third organization to provide a third organization service to said customer.
4. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
- requiring a third organization to ship a third organization product to said customer.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said requiring product shipments comprises requiring said third organization to ship said third organization products from a facility not controlled by said first organization.

6. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:  
verifying that said third organization product was received by said customer.

7. The method of claim 3 and further comprising:  
verifying that said third organization service was performed by said third organization.

8. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:  
tracking receipt of said payment by computer.

9. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:  
paying said second organization a predetermined amount based on said order.

10. The method of claim 9 and further comprising:  
tracking said paying said second organization by computer.

11. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:  
paying said third organization for said third organization products.

12. The method of claim 11 and further comprising:  
tracking said paying said third organization by computer.

13. A method for a first organization to business comprising:

requiring a second organization to take an order for sales items on behalf of the first organization;

in response to a determination that the order includes a product distributed by a third organization sending an order for that product to the third organization;

requiring the third organization to ship the product directly to the customer's address.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising:

requiring the third organization to notify the second organization when the product has been shipped.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

invoicing the customer after the third organization notifies the second organization that the product has been shipped.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the product shipped by the third organization is less than all items distributed by the third organization that were on the order and further comprising:

requiring the third organization to notify the second organization when the order is incomplete and when the backlog for items on the order that were not shipped is longer than a predetermined number of days.

17. The method of claim 13 further comprising:  
requiring the second organization to notify the first organization when the order is incomplete and when the backlog for items on the order that were not shipped is longer than a predetermined number of days.

18. A method for a first organization to do business comprising:

requiring a second organization to take an order for sales items on behalf of the first organization;

in response to a determination that the order includes a product distributed by a third organization sending an order for that product to the third organization;

requiring the third organization to notify the first organization when the order exceeds a predetermined credit limit of the second organization.

19. A method for a first organization to do business comprising:

in response to a determination that services in a service order taken by a second organization on behalf of the first organization is incomplete determining whether the service order includes support services; and

determining a billing strategy based upon whether or not the service order includes support services.

20. The method of claim 19 and further comprising:

in response to a determination that the service order does not include support services determining whether the services ordered may be completed in less than a predetermined period of time; and

determining a billing strategy based upon whether or not the services ordered may be completed in less than a predetermined period of time.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein it is determined that the services ordered may not be completed in less than the predetermined period of time and further comprising determining whether the services ordered are essential to the use of hardware included on the order.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein it is determined that the services ordered are essential to the use of hardware included on the order and further comprising waiting for completion of the service before invoicing either the service or hardware portion of the order.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein it is determined that the services ordered are not essential to the use of hardware included on the order and further comprising invoicing the hardware portion of the order prior to completion of the services ordered.